

Humble House Remains
Lot #8, South Ward
Town of Frederica, St. Simons Island
Glynn County, Georgia

HABS No.
GA 2153

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64-FRED.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
120 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HUMBLE HOUSE REMAINS

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Street Address or Location: Lot #8, South Ward, Town of Frederica,
St. Simons Island, Glynn County, Georgia

Present Owner: Fort Frederica National Monument, Box 367,
St. Simons Island, Georgia

Brief Statement of
Significance: This ruined house was built by an early
settler at Fort Frederica.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Lot #8, South Ward, granted to John Humble, one of the first settlers at Frederica. He died about 1740. Later, this lot was granted to Lieutenant Primrose Maxwell of Oglethorpe's Regiment.

2. Date of erection: Unknown

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: John Humble, laborer, and his wife, Joanna, age 60, were among the first settlers at Frederica. She died of old age prior to May 23, 1736. He turned himself to the sea, and was a pilot at Frederica. In 1739, he married a second wife, named Catherine. John Humble died in 1740. He had made no improvements other than palmetto or clapboard huts. The lot was later granted to Primrose Maxwell, a lieutenant in Oglethorpe's regiment. Sources: E. Merton Coulter and Albert B. Saye, eds., A List of the Early Settlers of Georgia, University of Georgia Press, Athens, 1949 - p. 25.

Allen D. Candler, ed., The Colonial Records of the State of Georgia, Atlanta, 1904, The Franklin Printing and Publishing Co. - v. 21, p. 285; v. 22, p. 17; v. 25, p. 28.

Phillips Collection, University of Georgia Library, 14203 - p. 239.

Margaret Davis Cate, Sea Island, Georgia, Notes on Broad Street Lots, Town of Frederica, Georgia, St. Simons Island, Georgia, 1957. Typescript; a copy at Fort Frederica National Monument, Box 367, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Prepared by Lionel J. Bienvenu - June 1958

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

Architectural Character:

1. Very little remains of this ruined settler's house except the rectangular poured tabby foundations.

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2. Condition of fabric: Ruinous, nothing left above grade.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 24' x 14'
2. Foundations: Poured tabby
3. Wall construction: Poured tabby
4. Chimneys: Probably two, of brick
5. Openings: a. Doorways and doors: Small stoop of brick, near front of house on west side.
b. Windows and shutters: No evidence

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: Probably one and one-half stories; rectangular plan with fireplace projecting 2' beyond rear (south) wall. Plan split up into two unequal rooms.
2. Flooring: Large room has irregular tabby floor. No floor left in smaller room.
3. Hardware: Found in excavation - fragment of large box lock, horizontal pintle, "L" pintle, fragment of large "H" hinge, and about 300 assorted nails, all of iron.
4. Heating: Two fireplaces; one in larger room next to tabby partition between rooms has fire-charred brick hearth left only. Fireplace of brick projects beyond rear wall in smaller room. No hearth left.

D. Site:

1. General setting: Town of Frederica, an old Indian field, flat, 40 acres, Lot #8, South Ward, 60' x 90', short north side fronts on Broad Street, 14' alley to south, 90' sides bordered by like lots.
2. Orientation: Front faces north.

Prepared by Philip E. Gardner - June 1958
Architect, National Park Service